

# COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES FLOODPLAIN MANAGEMENT PLAN 2017 PROGRESS REPORT



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2016-2017

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# County of Los Angeles

## Comprehensive Floodplain Management Plan and Program for Public Information 2017 Annual Progress Report

**REPORTING PERIOD:** September 6, 2016, to September 5, 2017

**BACKGROUND:** The County of Los Angeles participates in the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) administered by Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and in the NFIP's Community Rating System. In compliance with the NFIP, the County of Los Angeles prepared a Comprehensive Floodplain Management Plan which is an overall strategy of programs, projects, and measures aimed at reducing the adverse impact of flood hazards in the community.

Throughout the years, Floodplain Management Plans have evolved to meet the needs of the community and to comply with applicable regulations. The first plan, titled "*Repetitive Loss Plan for the National Flood Insurance Program Community Rating System (CRS) for the County of Los Angeles*" was adopted by the County of Los Angeles Board of Supervisors in 1992 and approved by FEMA. A subsequent Floodplain Management Plan for repetitive loss properties was prepared and approved in 2002 by FEMA. In 2007, the County of Los Angeles updated the Floodplain Management Plan and brought it to the Board of Supervisors for adoption in 2010. The current Floodplain Management Plan was adopted by the County of Los Angeles Board of Supervisors in 2016.

Prior Floodplain Management Plans did not address all of the unincorporated areas of the County of Los Angeles. The Plans considered properties that had been identified by FEMA as "repetitive loss properties" – properties for which two or more claims of \$1,000 or more had been paid by the NFIP within any 10-year period since 1978. The current Floodplain Management Plan expands the previous efforts by addressing all of the unincorporated areas, changes in local development since the previous plans, and evolving local, State, and Federal regulations.

In addition, a companion document was prepared in conjunction with the Floodplain Management Plan called the Los Angeles County Repetitive Loss Area Analysis. This document provides an assessment of flooding and possible mitigation methods for repetitive loss areas. Repetitive loss areas were determined using a reverse of the depth-damage-function to determine the floodwater elevation and the possible extent of the flood hazard. The local drainage conditions were then considered to determine, which of these neighboring properties may be damaged by that flood.

The Floodplain Management Plan was developed to meet the following objectives:

- Comply with local, State, and Federal requirements for floodplain management planning.
- Coordinate existing plans and programs to facilitate the implementation and funding of high-priority initiatives and projects to mitigate possible disaster impacts.

- Create a linkage between the Floodplain Management Plan and other plans established by the County of Los Angeles, so they can work together in achieving successful flood mitigation.

The Floodplain Management Plan is available online at: <http://dpw.lacounty.gov/WMD/NFIP/FMP/>

The County of Los Angeles also developed a program for public information to identify, prepare, implement, and monitor a range of flood-related public information activities that meet specific, local needs. The Program for Public Information (PPI) framework is described in Chapter 14 of the Floodplain Management Plan.

**PURPOSE:** The purpose of this progress report is to provide an annual update on the implementation of the action plan identified in the Comprehensive Floodplain Management Plan and on the implementation and evaluation of the outreach projects identified in the PPI. The objective is to ensure there is a continuing and responsive planning process that will keep the Floodplain Management Plan and related outreach efforts dynamic and responsive to the needs and capabilities of the County of Los Angeles and stakeholders. This report discusses the following:

- Flood events that have occurred during the reporting period (September 6, 2016, to September 5, 2017)
- Changes (if any) in risk exposure within the planning area (unincorporated County of Los Angeles)
- Mitigation success stories
- Changes (if any) in capabilities that could impact plan implementation
- Floodplain management plan implementation status
  - Review of the action plan
  - Recommendations for changes/enhancement
- Program for Public Information implementation and evaluation status
  - Review of the outreach projects
  - Review on progress toward desired outcomes
  - Recommendations for changes/enhancement

**FLOOD EVENTS WITHIN THE PLANNING AREA:** According to the County of Los Angeles precipitation records from October 1, 2016, to September 30, 2017, the Downtown Los Angeles rain gage (Station No. 716) recorded 19.92 inches of rain. This is about 29 percent above the average annual rainfall of 15.5 inches. During the reporting period, there were five flood events in the planning area that had a measurable impact on people or property. A summary of these events follows:

1. Rainfall Event Dates: December 23 to 25, 2016

Rainfall Totals: Between 0.50 to 1.50 inches in the valleys and 0.75 to 2.4 inches in the mountains. Cogswell Dam recorded 2.64 inches of rain.

Notable impacts/issues:

- Two rail and timber debris-retaining structures on Iron Canyon Road filled with sediment resulting from mudflows from the Sand Fire burn area in Santa Clarita. Sediment flowed on driveways and on Iron Canyon Road (private road).
- Various roads in the Santa Monica Mountains were impacted by boulders and rockslides.
- Several trees toppled throughout the County of Los Angeles.

2. Rainfall Event Dates: January 22 to 24, 2017

Rainfall Totals: Between 1.4 and 5.0 inches in the valleys and as much as 8.0 inches in the mountains.

Notable impacts/issues:

- On March 16, 2017, President Donald J. Trump approved this storm as a Major Disaster Declaration for the County of Los Angeles and other counties in California.
- The National Weather Service issued a Flash Flood Warning for most of the County of Los Angeles.
- Mandatory evacuation orders were issued to residents and an elementary school near the Fish Fire burn area in Duarte. The Red Cross designated the Duarte Community Center as an evacuation shelter.
- Mandatory evacuation orders were issued to residents in the Sand Canyon burn area in Santa Clarita. The Red Cross designated Canyon High School as an evacuation shelter.
- The Red Cross designated the East Wilmington Greenbelt Community Center as an evacuation shelter for Wilmington.
- Long Beach experienced an all-time rainfall record equivalent to a 100-year 3-hour intensity storm. The West Long Beach Pump Plant rain gage recorded a rainfall total of 4.23 inches for the storm event.
- Flooding caused the closure of the 710 Freeway in Long Beach and the 110 Freeway in Carson.
- Rock slides and slope failures shut down Topanga Canyon Boulevard and Malibu Canyon Road in Malibu.
- There were downed trees throughout the County of Los Angeles. Public Works' crews were dispatched to multiple locations.
- Multiple roads were closed to traffic in the County of Los Angeles.
- Several roads leading into the Val Verde area were flooded and residents in the area were advised to shelter in place.

- Flooded roads caused several vehicles to get stranded.
    - Durfee Avenue between Santa Anita Avenue and Rosemead Boulevard flooded in the Whittier Narrows Natural Area in South El Monte. Sheriff's deputies assisted stranded drivers. Public Works' crews set up barricades for the flooded street.
    - A car was swept away in Santa Clarita.
3. Rainfall Event Date: February 11, 2017

Rainfall Totals: The nearest rain gage to Placerita Canyon, Mint Canyon at Fitch, indicated the area received approximately 0.79 inches of rain from February 10 to 11, 2017.

Notable impacts/issues:

- The County of Los Angeles Fire Department and Sheriff's deputies rescued three victims who got stuck in their cars when a flash flood swept through Placerita Canyon. According to witnesses, the two cars attempted to drive through the stream and stalled before being swept away. Residents stated that the water was more than 3 feet deep at one point.

4. Rainfall Event Date: February 17 to 20, 2017

Rainfall Totals: Throughout the County of Los Angeles there were generally between 2 and 6 inches of rain.

Notable impacts/issues:

- The National Weather Service issued a Flash Flood Warning for much of the County of Los Angeles including the Sand and Fish burn areas.
- Mandatory evacuation orders were issued to residents and an elementary school near the Fish Fire burn area in Duarte.
- There was flooding and debris flow in Iron Canyon in the City of Santa Clarita.
- Flooding caused the closure of the 5 Freeway in Sun Valley and the 110 Freeway in south Los Angeles.
- Downed trees were reported throughout the County of Los Angeles. Public Works' crews responded to multiple locations.
- Several roads were flooded throughout the County of Los Angeles. Public Works' crews placed barricades at:
  - Workman Mill Road at Pellissier Place in Avocado Heights
  - Durfee Avenue at Rosemead Boulevard in South El Monte
- A sinkhole, large enough to swallow cars, formed in Studio City.

5. Rainfall Event Date: August 3, 2017

Rainfall Totals: The Acton Camp rain gage recorded 0.28 inches of rain in eight minutes from 4:21 p.m. to 4:29 p.m.

Notable impacts/issues:

- The town of Acton experienced a flash flood.
- Flooding and mudflows caused cars to be stranded and abandoned. The County of Los Angeles Firefighters performed at least three air rescues for stranded motorists.
- Residents and businesses in the Acton area reported flood damage.
- Approximately 2 to 3 feet of mud and water prompted the closure of several major roads in Acton. The intersection of Red Rover, Mine Road, and Sierra Highway was one of the roads that was washed out.
- The southbound lanes of the 14 Freeway flooded.
- The Metrolink tracks were damaged by the flood, forcing a train to turn around and head back to the Via Princessa station in Santa Clarita.

**CHANGES IN RISK EXPOSURE IN THE PLANNING AREA:** Not applicable during this reporting period.

**MITIGATION SUCCESS STORIES:**

**1. Iron Canyon Rail and Timber Debris Retaining Structure**

The Sand Fire occurred from July 22 to August 3, 2016. The wildfire burned portions of the Angeles National Forest east of the Santa Clarita Valley. Because of the fire, the burned areas became susceptible to debris flows during storms. In October 2017, Public Works constructed two rail and timber debris-retaining structures at the end of Iron Canyon Road to protect residents from potential debris flows. Following storms, Public Works maintained the rail and timber structures by removing debris and making any necessary repairs. Prior to the December 23 to 25, 2016 storm, Public Works provided advisory notices to residents in the Sand, Placerita, and Iron Canyons to warn them about the pending storm and provided ways to help them prepare.

**CHANGES THAT MAY IMPACT IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PLAN:**

**1. Elevation requirements per American Society of Civil Engineers Code 24-14**

Effective January 1, 2017, the County of Los Angeles required elevation of new structures to comply with the American Society of Civil Engineers 24-14 standard (ASCE 24-14), which is referenced in the International Codes. The International Codes are published in the California Building Standards Code. The County of Los Angeles has adopted by reference the California Building Code. New structures in special flood hazard areas are

required to be elevated based on their Flood Design Class. The elevations include the following:

- For Flood Design Class 2 (buildings that pose a moderate risk to the public and include most residential, commercial, and industrial buildings) would be elevated to one foot above the Base Flood Elevation or the community's design flood elevation (County Capital Flood), whichever is higher.
- For Flood Design Class 4 (buildings containing essential facilities and services necessary for emergency response and recovery such as hospitals, police and fire stations, emergency shelters, emergency operations centers, power stations, etc.) would be elevated two feet above the Base Flood Elevation, the community's design flood elevation, or the 500-year flood elevation, whichever is higher.

## **2. Letter of Map Revision for the Neenach community**

FEMA issued a Letter of Map Revision (LOMR) to change the Special Flood Hazard Area in the Neenach Community and became effective August 21, 2017. The change was made due to a detailed study of the watershed that more accurately identified the flood hazard boundaries. This change affected FEMA's Flood Insurance Rate Map Panel Nos. 06037C0075F, 06037C0100F, and 06037C0350F, dated September 26, 2008. In general, the Special Flood Hazard Area was reduced. Approximately 83 insurable structures were removed from the flood hazard and 18 insurable structures were added. An outreach letter, copy of the LOMR, and map showing the changes for properties were mailed to the affected properties.

## **FLOODPLAIN MANAGEMENT PLAN PROGRESS**

***Summary Overview of the Plan's Progress:*** The performance period for the Floodplain Management Plan became effective on September 6, 2016, with the final approval of the plan by the Board of Supervisors. The initial performance period for this plan will be five years, with an anticipated update to the plan to occur by September 5, 2020. As of this reporting period, the performance period for this plan is considered to be 66 percent complete. The Floodplain Management Plan has targeted 35 flood hazard mitigation initiatives to be pursued during the 5-year performance period. As of the reporting period, the following overall progress can be reported:

- 15 out of 35 initiatives (43 percent) reported ongoing action toward completion.
- 18 out of 35 initiatives (51 percent) were reported as being complete.
- 2 out of 35 initiatives (6 percent) reported no action taken.

***The Floodplain Management Plan Steering Committee:*** The Floodplain Management Plan Steering Committee, made up of stakeholders within the planning area, reviewed and approved this progress report at its annual meeting held on March 20, 2018. It was determined through the plan's development process that a Steering Committee would remain in service to oversee maintenance of the plan. The Steering Committee provided technical review and



oversight on the development of the annual progress report. As the implementation of the Floodplain Management Plan moves forward, it is anticipated that there will be turnover in the membership annually, which will be documented in the progress reports. For this reporting period, the Steering Committee membership is as indicated in Table 1.

<p><b>TABLE 1</b></p> <p><b>STEERING COMMITTEE MEMBERS</b></p>	
Name	Jurisdiction/Agency
Hu Yi (Chairperson)	Stormwater Maintenance Division, LACDPW
Debbie Sharpton (Vice-Chairperson)	Mountains Restoration Trust
Martin Araiza	Stormwater Engineering Division, LACDPW
John Blalock	Resident, Antelope Valley
Gina Natoli	Los Angeles County Department of Regional Planning
George De La O	Stormwater Engineering Division, LACDPW
Loni Eazell	Disaster Services Group, LACDPW
Okorie Ezieme	Altadena Town Council
Scott Gardner	Los Angeles County Fire Department
Michael Hart	Malibou Lake Mountain Club
Frank Lopez	Los Angeles Chamber of Commerce
Lisa Naslund	Building and Safety Division, LACDPW
Kendra Pospychalla	American Red Cross, Los Angeles Region

**Review of the Action Plan:** Table 2 reviews the action plan, reporting the status of each initiative. Reviewers of this report should refer to the Floodplain Management Plan for more detailed descriptions of each initiative and the prioritization process.

*Address the following in the “status” column of the following table:*

- *Was any element of the initiative carried out during the reporting period?*
- *If no action was completed, why?*
- *Is the timeline for implementation for the initiative still appropriate?*
- *If the initiative was completed, does it need to be changed or removed from the action plan?*

**TABLE 2  
ACTION PLAN MATRIX**

Action Taken? (Yes or No)	Priority	Status	Completion Status (X, O, ✓)
Initiative No. 1 — Promote awareness of flood hazards to residents in flood hazard areas.			
Yes	High	In October 2017, 3,551 copies of "Are You Prepared For A Flood" brochure were mailed. The County of Los Angeles National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) website links were checked and updated. Previously, brochures were distributed to the Malibu, Rosemead, and Castaic libraries. Brochures are now being distributed to additional libraries closer to the floodplains including Topanga, Altadena, Duarte, and San Dimas.	✓
Initiative No. 2 — Develop and distribute flood protection information and materials to property owners, renters, and developers in high-risk areas.			
Yes	High	In October 2017, 3,551 copies of "Are You Prepared For A Flood" brochure were mailed to properties in Special Flood Hazard Areas, County Floodways, and possible gaps in floodplain mapping. 226 copies of CDs containing County of Los Angeles and FEMA publications were mailed to all Repetitive Loss Properties (RLP) and properties in the Repetitive Loss Areas.	✓
Initiative No. 3 — Maintain a list of critical facilities located in FEMA-designated flood zones, provide flood protection information to operators of these critical facilities, and encourage the implementation of flood protection measures.			
Yes	High	Public Works mailed a letter and outreach materials to owners of critical facilities located in FEMA's-designated 100-year flood zones. Critical facilities that received outreach materials include schools, hospitals, fire stations, and health care facilities.	O
Initiative No. 4 — Investigate Repetitive Loss Properties identified by FEMA and update the Repetitive Loss Property and high-risk property list. Conduct the following flood control activities for these properties:			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Annually notify owners regarding local flood hazards and proper protection activities</li> <li>• Provide technical advice regarding flood protection and flood preparedness</li> <li>• Distribute a revised questionnaire to new Repetitive Loss Properties</li> </ul>			
Yes	High	As of November 2017, 26 RLP and 129 RLAA properties have been visited. In October 2017, 226 copies of CDs containing FEMA publications were mailed to all RLP and RLAA properties.	O
Completion status legend: ✓ = Project Completed, continue to implement as necessary O = Action ongoing toward completion X = No progress at this time			

**TABLE 2  
ACTION PLAN MATRIX**

Action Taken? (Yes or No)	Priority	Status	Completion Status (X, O, ✓)
Initiative No. 5 — Make sand bags available to flood risk property owners during the wet season, provide notifications of the availability of these materials, and track the distribution of the materials.			
Yes	High	Public Works provides sandbags to the Fire Department for distribution to residents thru over 160 local Fire Stations. Demand for sandbags varies from year to year. For the El Niño 2015-16 storm season, Public Works provided 1,257,000 sandbags to the Fire Department. For the 2016-17 storm season, approximately 100,000 sandbags were distributed to the Fire Department. Public Works maintains over 750,000 sandbags for distribution. Public Works also maintains a website where residents can search for the nearest location to obtain sandbags. <a href="http://dpw.lacounty.gov/dsg/sandbags/">http://dpw.lacounty.gov/dsg/sandbags/</a>	✓
Initiative No. 6 — Provide public education about maintaining the stormwater system free of debris.			
Yes	High	The County of Los Angeles launched the Stormwater Public Education Program in an effort to educate the public about what they can do to prevent pollution and keep local waterways clean. The program uses a variety of different outreach efforts to help remind people what happens when they don't think about the effect they have on the environment. Current program outreach activities include paid advertising, community pilot programs, media relations, and corporate partnerships. In addition, the program provides technical assistance to the County's incorporated cities to help promote cohesive pollution prevention efforts throughout the region.	✓
Initiative No. 7 — Continue to maintain/enhance the County's classification under the Community Rating System to address increased flood insurance costs and promote safety and preparedness.			
Yes	High	As of 2017, County of Los Angeles holds a CRS class standing of 7. The County continues to maintain and strive to identify activities to help maintain and improve the CRS class rating.	O
Initiative No. 8 — Implement the Program for Public Information protocol identified in this plan including appropriate messaging for compliance with ADA.			
Yes	High	The County of Los Angeles continued implementation of the Program for Public Information developed in 2016. A report detailing the PPI implementation status for the 2016-17 period was approved by the PPI committee on August 30, 2017, and it is included at the end of this report.	✓
Completion status legend: ✓ = Project Completed, continue to implement as necessary O = Action ongoing toward completion X = No progress at this time			

**TABLE 2  
ACTION PLAN MATRIX**

Action Taken? (Yes or No)	Priority	Status	Completion Status (X, O, ✓)
Initiative No. 9 — Provide emergency preparedness and flood protection information to the general public.			
Yes	High	<p>The County of Los Angeles provides emergency and flood protection information to the general public through different means including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A website specifically devoted to provide emergency preparation information that includes resources, tips, and facts to equip and alert residents on how to best respond to emergencies and recover from disasters. <a href="http://www.lacounty.gov/emergency/">http://www.lacounty.gov/emergency/</a></li> <li>• The County of Los Angeles Chief Executive Office, Office of Emergency Management website features informational resource links to Federal, State, and local government emergency operations departments and agencies, and nongovernmental organizations in the Links to Websites section. <a href="http://www.lacoa.org/">http://www.lacoa.org/</a></li> <li>• Various flood hazard videos produced by the County of Los Angeles and made available through YouTube including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o Storm water safety: <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5jFI6Z-Ld4w">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5jFI6Z-Ld4w</a></li> <li>o Swift Water: <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EcOpX7TGY84">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EcOpX7TGY84</a> <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2_oejOP_o_k">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2_oejOP_o_k</a></li> <li>o Storm season evacuation: <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gqrr1_o4WYA">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gqrr1_o4WYA</a> <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=07BHy2Acq-Q">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=07BHy2Acq-Q</a></li> </ul> </li> </ul>	✓
<p>Completion status legend:</p> <p>✓ = Project Completed, continue to implement as necessary</p> <p>O = Action ongoing toward completion</p> <p>X = No progress at this time</p>			

**TABLE 2  
ACTION PLAN MATRIX**

Action Taken? (Yes or No)	Priority	Status	Completion Status (X, O, ✓)
Initiative No. 10 — Distribute information regarding flood prevention and flood insurance at emergency operations and emergency preparedness events.			
Yes	High	Public Works' Disaster Service Group participated in emergency preparedness events throughout this reporting period and provided attendees with the "Are You Prepared For A Flood" brochure and "Homeowner's Guide for Flood, Debris, and Erosion Control."  In addition, various departments from the County of Los Angeles participated in the Emergency Preparedness Fair at Public Works' headquarters on April 5, 2017. Participants at the fair provided attendees with information and resources for preparation, such as the "Are You Prepared for a Flood?", ALERT LA brochure, Homeowner's Guide for Flood, Debris, and Erosion Control, and the Emergency Survival Guide.	✓
Initiative No. 11 — Develop and maintain a list of priority maintenance-related problem sites.			
Yes	High	When Public Works encountered maintenance-related problem sites, Public Works mitigated maintenance-related issues with improvement projects and/or increased maintenance.	✓
Initiative No. 12 — Conduct routine maintenance of flood control facilities and additional maintenance as needed at priority maintenance-related flood problem sites.			
Yes	High	In the past year, as well as every year, Public Works performed routine inspection and maintenance for 471 miles of open channels, 15 dams, 27 Spreading Grounds, 34 Detention/Retention Basins, 174 Debris Basins, 333 Debris Retaining Inlets, 68 pump plants, and approximately 820 miles of underground storm drains.	✓
Completion status legend: ✓ = Project Completed, continue to implement as necessary O = Action ongoing toward completion X = No progress at this time			

**TABLE 2  
ACTION PLAN MATRIX**

Action Taken? (Yes or No)	Priority	Status	Completion Status (X, O, ✓)
Initiative No. 13 — Conduct a stormwater facilities condition assessment to identify the physical and hydraulic condition of the system and to support infrastructure management.			
Yes	High	Public Works Stormwater Maintenance Division (SWMD) performed routine inspections of Los Angeles County Flood Control District (LACFCD) facilities per SWMD Standard Procedures. During inspections, any deficiencies exceeding LACFCD's Acceptable Maintenance Conditions were noted and corresponding facilities were restored to SWMD's standards.  In addition, Public Works is implementing a pilot program that utilizes drones to perform inspections of certain Public Works' facilities, such as dams and bridges. A video detailing this pilot program is available at: <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GxuZ8-UVe-U">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GxuZ8-UVe-U</a>	✓
Initiative No. 14 — Evaluate storm drain, open channel, and flood retention basin facilities for future improvements.			
Yes	High	Public Works routinely conducts studies to determine flood hazard risks and evaluate Flood Control Facilities to identify potential future improvements. Dominguez Channel Flood Risk Mitigation Alternative Study and Santa Clara River Feasibility Study are examples of current ongoing studies.	O
Initiative No. 15 — Pursue appropriate flood hazard mitigation grant funding.			
Yes	High	The County of Los Angeles continues to look for opportunities to work with FEMA to identify flood hazard mitigation funding opportunities. The County is also a participant of FEMA's Hazard Mitigation Assistance External Stakeholder Working Group.	O
Initiative No. 16 — Consider the conversion of high-risk properties into open space.			
Yes	High	The conversion of high-risk properties into open space is consistent with Public Works' goals to reduce flood risk, improve water conservation and quality, and create recreational opportunities for the County.	O
Initiative No. 17 — Refine the plan check system to track properties in the flood zone and address drainage.			
Yes	Medium	The County of Los Angeles is in the process of developing a new plan check database system to better track and address permit requests from properties in flood zones.	O
Completion status legend: ✓ = Project Completed, continue to implement as necessary O = Action ongoing toward completion X = No progress at this time			

**TABLE 2  
ACTION PLAN MATRIX**

Action Taken? (Yes or No)	Priority	Status	Completion Status (X, O, ✓)
Initiative No. 18 — Flag Repetitive Loss Properties in the plan, and check database for review and approval of building permit applications.			
Yes	High	The County of Los Angeles is developing a new database system to better flag Repetitive Loss Properties for building permit applications.	O
Initiative No. 19 — Maintain a database system for tracking all reviewed and approved elevation certificates prior to the closure of a building permit.			
Yes	High	The County of Los Angeles is developing a new database system to better track elevation certificates prior to the closure of a building permit.	O
Initiative No. 20 — Evaluate opportunities for incorporating Watershed Ecosystem Restoration into projects.			
Yes	High	The County of Los Angeles continues to evaluate opportunities for watershed ecosystem restoration. Some potential projects to incorporate watershed ecosystem restoration include: Arroyo Seco Ecosystem Restoration Feasibility Study, Ballona Wetlands Restoration Project, and Compton Creek Ecosystem Restoration Feasibility Study.	O
Initiative No. 21 — Where feasible, cost-effective and supported both publicly and politically, restore the natural and beneficial functions of floodplains.			
Yes	Medium	Public Works continues to evaluate opportunities to restore the natural and beneficial functions floodplains. Public Works is currently partnering with the California Department of Fish and Wildlife and State Coastal Conservancy on the Ballona Wetlands Restoration Project to potentially restore approximately 600 acres of Ballona Wetlands.	O
Initiative No. 22 — Encourage the application of biological resource measures for the control of stormwater and erosion to the best of their applicable limits.			
Yes	High	The County of Los Angeles encourages Low-Impact Development (LID) for stormwater management by adopting a LID ordinance and creating a LID standards manual. LID is an approach to stormwater management that works to mimic the natural hydrology of the site by retaining precipitation on-site to the maximum extent practicable. LID strategies are designed to protect surface and groundwater quality, maintain the integrity of ecosystems, and preserve the physical integrity of receiving waters by managing stormwater runoff at or close to the source.	✓
Completion status legend: ✓ = Project Completed, continue to implement as necessary O = Action ongoing toward completion X = No progress at this time			

**TABLE 2  
ACTION PLAN MATRIX**

Action Taken? (Yes or No)	Priority	Status	Completion Status (X, O, ✓)
<b>Initiative No. 23 — Maintain the Operational Area Emergency Response Plan</b>			
Yes	High	In 2012, the County of Los Angeles Board of Supervisors approved the Operational Area Emergency Response Plan (OAERP). The OAERP conforms to the requirements of the National Incident Management System and the California Standardized Emergency Management System. Currently, there are no revisions to the OAERP. The OAERP will be reviewed, exercised periodically, and revised as necessary to meet changing conditions. Work on the update to the OAERP is forecasted to commence by the end of 2017.	O
<b>Initiative No. 24 — Maintain standards for the use of structural and nonstructural techniques that mitigate flood hazards and manage stormwater pollution.</b>			
Yes	High	The County of Los Angeles prepared the 2014 LID Standards Manual. The LID Standards Manual provides guidance for the implementation of stormwater quality control measures in new development and redevelopment projects in unincorporated areas of the County with the intention of improving water quality and mitigating potential water quality impacts from stormwater and nonstormwater discharges.	✓
<b>Initiative No. 25 — Continue to require environmental review in the development process to provide for the creation or protection of natural resources that can mitigate the impacts of development.</b>			
Yes	High	The County of Los Angeles Department of Regional Planning performs environmental review for land use planning for unincorporated communities in the County of Los Angeles. Projects that generally require an environmental assessment are plan amendments, zone changes, conditional use permits, tentative parcel maps, and tentative tract maps.	O
<b>Initiative No. 26 — Where appropriate, support retrofitting, purchase, or relocation of structures in hazard-prone (high-risk) areas to prevent future structure damage. Give priority to properties with exposure to repetitive losses.</b>			
Yes	High	The County of Los Angeles continues to enforce NFIP regulations for permit applications determined to be Substantial Improvement or Substantial Damage to protect the property owner's investment and safety and over time to reduce the number of buildings exposed to flood risk.	✓
<b>Completion status legend:</b> ✓ = Project Completed, continue to implement as necessary O = Action ongoing toward completion X = No progress at this time			



**TABLE 2  
ACTION PLAN MATRIX**

Action Taken? (Yes or No)	Priority	Status	Completion Status (X, O, ✓)
Initiative No. 27 — Use risk-based information from the County of Los Angeles Comprehensive Floodplain Management Plan and the County of Los Angeles Hazard Mitigation Plan to update the Safety Element of the County's General Plan.			
Yes	High	<p>The current County of Los Angeles General Plan was adopted by the County of Los Angeles Board of Supervisors on October 6, 2015.</p> <p>The Safety Element of the County's General Plan works in conjunction with the OAERP. The OAERP, prepared by the County of Los Angeles Chief Executive Office – Office of Emergency Management, strengthens short and long-term emergency response and recovery capability and identifies emergency procedures and emergency management routes in the County of Los Angeles. To access the OAERP, please visit the County of Los Angeles Chief Executive Office (CEO) website at <a href="http://lacoa.org/oaerp.htm">http://lacoa.org/oaerp.htm</a>.</p> <p>The All-Hazard Mitigation Plan, which provides policy guidance for minimizing threats from natural and manmade hazards in the County of Los Angeles was approved on February 24, 2014, by the County of Los Angeles Board of Supervisors, by FEMA, and by the California Emergency Management Agency. The All-Hazard Mitigation Plan used the 2009 County of Los Angeles Floodplain Management Plan and 2014 draft of County of Los Angeles General Plan as resources. For more information on the County All-Hazard Mitigation Plan, please visit the CEO's website at <a href="http://lacoa.org/hazmit.htm">http://lacoa.org/hazmit.htm</a>.</p>	✓
Initiative No. 28 — Continue to maintain good standing under the NFIP by implementing programs that meet or exceed the minimum NFIP requirements. Such programs include enforcing an adopted flood damage prevention ordinance, participating in floodplain mapping updates, and providing public assistance and information on floodplain requirements and impacts.			
Yes	High	The County of Los Angeles continues to maintain and strive to identify activities that meet or exceed NFIP requirements and to help improve the CRS class rating.	✓
<p>Completion status legend:</p> <p>✓ = Project Completed, continue to implement as necessary</p> <p>O = Action ongoing toward completion</p> <p>X = No progress at this time</p>			

**TABLE 2  
ACTION PLAN MATRIX**

Action Taken? (Yes or No)	Priority	Status	Completion Status (X, O, ✓)
Initiative No. 29 — Consider the best available data and science to determine probable impacts on all forms of flooding from global climate change when making program enhancements or updates to the County's Floodplain Management Program.			
Yes	High	<p>The County of Los Angeles partnered with the United States Department of the Interior Bureau of Reclamation to prepare a study of the Los Angeles Basin in cooperation with local water agencies and nongovernmental organizations to explore long-term water conservation opportunities and flood risk management impacts from climate change within the Los Angeles Basin.</p> <p>The Los Angeles Basin Study looked at the period from 2010 to 2095 and used state-of-the-art climate change and hydrologic modeling to develop projections of future water supply and demands in the region. Potential climate change impacts from changes to precipitation and evapotranspiration; storm intensity; and the quantity quality, and variability of runoff, recharge, and imported water deliveries to the region were also evaluated. The study also analyzed the major components of the water conservation and flood protection system such as dams, spreading grounds, and major channel outlets.</p> <p>The hydrologic modeling performed for the study can be used to estimate future flood events and establish trends that could result from projected climate change. The performance of the flood control infrastructure can also be analyzed using the hydrology modeling results from the study and help determine the probable impacts on flooding from climate change.</p> <p>The Los Angeles Basin Study is available online at:   <a href="https://www.usbr.gov/watersmart/bsp/docs/fy2017/LABasinStudySummaryReport.pdf">https://www.usbr.gov/watersmart/bsp/docs/fy2017/LABasinStudySummaryReport.pdf</a> </p>	O
<p>Completion status legend:</p> <p>✓ = Project Completed, continue to implement as necessary</p> <p>O = Action ongoing toward completion</p> <p>X = No progress at this time</p>			

**TABLE 2  
ACTION PLAN MATRIX**

Action Taken? (Yes or No)	Priority	Status	Completion Status (X, O, ✓)
Initiative No. 30 — Identify flood-warning systems for properties where such systems can be beneficially employed.			
Yes	Medium	<p>The County of Los Angeles has implemented an emergency mass notification system that is used to contact County residents and businesses via recorded phone messages, text messages, or e-mail messages in case of emergency. The system, called ALERT LA County, is used by the County's Emergency Operations Center to notify residents and businesses of emergencies or critical situations and provide information regarding necessary actions, such as evacuations. The system also utilizes the telephone companies' 911 database and can contact land-line telephone numbers, whether listed or unlisted. If the call is picked up by an answering machine, the system will leave a recorded message. If the number called is busy or does not answer, the system will redial the number in an attempt to deliver the message. The system is also TTY/TDD compatible.</p> <p>In addition, the National Weather Service sends out mass notifications to impacted communities via Wireless Emergency Alerts (WEA). WEA are emergency messages sent by authorized government authorities through participating mobile carriers. Government partners include local and State public safety agencies, FEMA, the FCC, the Department of Homeland Security, and the National Weather Service. No app or sign-up is required and alerts are sent automatically to WEA-capable phones during emergencies.</p>	✓
Initiative No. 31 — Consider the development of a comprehensive flood warning and response plan for the unincorporated County that would become a functional annex to the Operational Area Emergency Response Plan and meet the Community Rating System Activity 610 requirements.			
Yes	High	Public Works will consider the development of a comprehensive flood warning and response plan for the unincorporated County that would become a functional annex to the Operational Area Emergency Response Plan. Update of the County's Operational Area Response Plan is projected to begin by the end of 2017.	X
<p>Completion status legend:</p> <p>✓ = Project Completed, continue to implement as necessary</p> <p>O = Action ongoing toward completion</p> <p>X = No progress at this time</p>			

TABLE 2 ACTION PLAN MATRIX			
Action Taken? (Yes or No)	Priority	Status	Completion Status (X, O, ✓)
Initiative No. 32 — Continue to enforce the County's development regulations to prevent increases of the flood hazard on adjacent properties.			
Yes	High	The County of Los Angeles continues to regulate development in FEMA's special flood hazard areas and adopted County Floodplains in unincorporated areas.	✓
Initiative No. 33 — Conduct an evaluation of FEMA-designated flood zones and revise/update them to reflect current conditions.			
Yes	Medium	The County of Los Angeles is working with FEMA to update the Flood Insurance Rate Maps for several streams. Updates are due to new flood insurance studies being conducted by FEMA in cooperation with affected cities and the County of Los Angeles.  In addition, Public Works reviews Conditional Letter of Map Revision submittals for projects that may revise/update FEMA designated flood zones.	✓
Initiative No. 34 — Continue to maintain and update the Hazus-MH model constructed to support the development of the FMP, to make flood risk information available to property owners.			
Yes	High	The County of Los Angeles continues to update the data used in the Hazus-MH model such as property information.	O
Initiative No. 35 — Continue County coordination with other agencies and stakeholders on issues of flood control.			
Yes	Medium	The County of Los Angeles continues to partner and explore partnership opportunities with other agencies and stakeholders regarding flood control issues.	O
Completion status legend: ✓ = Project Completed, continue to implement as necessary O = Action ongoing toward completion X = No progress at this time			

**Recommendations for Changes or Enhancements:** Based on the review of this report by the Floodplain Management Plan Steering Committee, the following recommendations will be noted for future updates or revisions to the plan:

- Updated Table 2 – Action Plan Matrix for clarity with the following revisions:
  - Removed column for Timeline
  - Included completion status legend at the bottom of table for every page

- Included more detail for completion status for projects that are completed and require continuing implementation.

## PROGRAM FOR PUBLIC INFORMATION IMPLEMENTATION

**Summary Overview of Implementation:** The annual performance period for the program for public information is from September 1 to August 31 of each year. In the 2016 reporting period, all 20 identified outreach projects (100 percent) were implemented. All projects have resulted in progress toward desired outcomes.

**The Program for Public Information Committee:** The Program for Public Information Committee, made up of stakeholders within the planning area, reviewed and approved this progress report at its annual meeting held on August 30, 2017. It is expected that turnover will occur in Program for Public Information Committee membership from year to year. For this reporting period, the committee membership is as indicated in Table 3.

<b>TABLE 3. PROGRAM FOR PUBLIC INFORMATION COMMITTEE</b>	
Name	Jurisdiction/Agency
George De La O	LACDPW
Kerjon Lee	LACDPW
Edel Vizcarra	LACDPW
Debbie Sharpton	Mountains Restorations Trust
Angel Barnuevo	Montebello School District
Shannon Ggem	Malibou Lake Resident

**Review of the Outreach Projects:** Program for Public Information Implementation Status reviews the identified outreach projects, reporting on the following items:

- The target audiences, the messages, and the desired outcomes.
- The projects in the PPI used to convey the messages.
- Which projects were implemented.
- Why some projects were not implemented.
- What progress was made toward the desired outcomes.
- What should be changed.

## PROGRAM FOR PUBLIC INFORMATION IMPLEMENTATION STATUS

### TOPIC 1: KNOW YOUR FLOOD HAZARD

#### 1. MESSAGE: KNOW YOUR FLOOD ZONE

([www.dpw.lacounty.gov/wmd/floodzone/index.cfm](http://www.dpw.lacounty.gov/wmd/floodzone/index.cfm))

##### Target Audiences:

- Residents, property owners, and businesses in the regulated floodplains
- Renters in flood-prone areas
- Critical Facility Operators in the regulated floodplains
- Realtors, Lenders, and Insurance Agents

##### Desired Outcomes:

- Increase in hits to Flood Zone Determination website

##### Progress Toward Outcomes:

- The County of Los Angeles Flood Zone Determination webpage hits:  
October 1, 2015 to September 30, 2016: 6,680  
October 1, 2016 to present: 8,160
- Will assess the feasibility of creating a more mobile friendly version of the Flood Zone Determination website.

#### **a. Project: Mailing of outreach brochure “Are You Prepared for a Flood?” to target audiences**

Assignment: Department of Public Works

Schedule: Annually, prior to rainy season (October)

Stakeholder<sup>1</sup>?: No

Implemented: Yes

Enhancement to project:

- Previously, brochures distributed to the Malibu, Rosemead, and Castaic libraries. Brochures are now being distributed to additional libraries closer to the floodplains including Topanga, Altadena, Duarte, and San Dimas.
- Preparedness brochure will be referenced in the Homeowner’s Guide currently being updated.
- To increase the reach to target audiences, the brochures have been distributed to Building and Safety Division’s plan check counters at headquarters and Arcadia.
- Map gap analysis being done to determine homes in close proximity to streams, but where a FEMA or County floodplain has not been mapped; appropriate homes will be added to the distribution list for the brochure.
- Will look into providing outreach material via a file sharing system like Dropbox to replace mailing out CDs.

#### **b. Project: Annual notice of map information services pursuant to CRS Activity 320 publicity requirements to local realtors/lenders/insurance agents**

Assignment: Department of Public Works

Schedule: Annually (October)

Stakeholder<sup>1</sup>?: Yes

Implemented: Yes

Enhancement to project:

- The current practice is to mail the annual notice to 55 agents in the unincorporated communities and adjacent areas. The distribution list will be expanded to additional agents in surrounding areas.

## **2. MESSAGE: YOU ARE IN A REPETITIVE LOSS AREA**

### Target Audiences:

- Residents, property owners, and businesses in repetitive loss areas

### Desired Outcomes:

- Increase in inquiries to Department of Public Works regarding flood hazards from repetitive loss properties
- Property owners implementing temporary or permanent flood mitigation projects
- Increased demand for sandbags during the storm season

### Progress Toward Outcomes:

- Department of Public Works to query its log of calls in the future to determine how many are from repetitive loss areas (RLA).
- Every year, field visits to Repetitive Loss Properties (RLP) are conducted to document any flood mitigation measures.
- To date, 14 RLPs have implemented flood mitigation measures.
- This year, field assessments conducted for 27 RLPs and 130 RLA properties.
- Public Works provides sandbags to the Fire Department for distribution to residents thru over 160 local Fire Stations. Demand for sandbags varies year to year. For the El Nino 2015-16 storm season, Public Works provided 1,257,000 sandbags to the Fire Department. For the 2016-17 storm season, approximately 100,000 sandbags were distributed to the Fire Department. Public Works maintains over 750,000 sandbags for distribution.

### **a. Project: Annual mailing to Repetitive Loss Area Properties**

Assignment: Department of Public Works

Schedule: Annually (October)

Stakeholder<sup>1</sup>?: No

Implemented: Yes

Enhancement to project:

- Continue mailing outreach materials to RLA properties. In 2016, outreach materials were mailed to 198 homes, including RLPs.

## **TOPIC 2: INSURE YOUR PROPERTY FOR YOUR FLOOD HAZARD**

### **1. MESSAGE: YOU NEED FLOOD INSURANCE**

#### Target Audiences:

- Residents, property owners, and businesses in the 100-year floodplain
- Homeowners who do not have a mortgage

Desired Outcomes:

- Increase in flood insurance policy holders in the 100-year floodplain

Progress Toward Outcomes:

- Total Policy Holders in Unincorporated LA County:

May 31, 2014	2,001
December 1, 2015	2,908
January 31, 2016	3,194
March 31, 2017	1,912

There can be several factors affecting the increase or decrease over time of policy holders in the unincorporated areas. One possible explanation for the increase in policies from 2015 to 2016, may be attributed to the forecasted El Niño conditions, even though the season resulted in dryer conditions than anticipated. Decreases in the numbers of policies may be the result of several factors including: revisions in the Flood Insurance Rate Maps that are the result of drainage improvements or corrections to the flood boundaries.

**a. Project: Mailing to property owners in the flood zone and repetitive loss areas**

Assignment: Department of Public Works

Schedule: Annually (October)

Stakeholder<sup>1</sup>?: No

Implemented: Yes

Enhancement to project:

Continue mailing outreach material to properties in the RLA and properties in Special Flood Hazard Areas (includes RLPs). In 2016, outreach materials were mailed to 198 RLA properties and 2,412 were mailed to properties in SFHAs. Mailing lists will be updated to account for changes in the Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRMs) that are the result of Letters of Map Revision (LOMRs), Physical Map Revisions (PMRs), and the map gap analysis.

**2. MESSAGE: RENTERS CAN BUY FLOOD INSURANCE**

Target Audiences:

- Renters in flood prone areas

Desired Outcomes:

- Increase in flood insurance purchase by renters in the 100-year floodplain

Progress Towards Outcomes:

- Flood insurance policies by renters or content only coverage is not yet available.

**a. Project: Mailing to renters in the flood zone**

Assignment: Department of Public Works

Schedule: Annually (October)

Stakeholder<sup>1</sup>?: No



Implemented: Yes

Enhancement to project:

To reach renters, the flood preparedness brochures are mailed to the site address and the owner's mailing address. When updated in the future, the mailer can be modified to better reach out to the renters regarding the availability of flood insurance.

### TOPIC 3: PROTECT PEOPLE FROM THE FLOOD HAZARD

#### 1. MESSAGE: AVOID SWIFT WATER

##### Target Audiences:

- People/children who hike or bike through channels and streams
- People who are camping/residing in channels and streams

##### Desired Outcomes:

- Decrease in swift water rescues
- Decrease in observed camping/residing in the channels and streams

##### Progress Toward Outcomes:

- Awaiting for Fire Department swift water rescue statistics.
- The Department of Public Works has multiple YouTube videos regarding the flood hazard and is currently working on new ones.
  - o Stormwater safety:  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5jFl6Z-Ld4w>
  - o Swift Water:  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EcOpX7TGY84>  
[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2\\_oeljOP\\_o\\_k](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2_oeljOP_o_k)
  - o Storm season evacuation:  
[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gqrr1\\_o4WYA](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gqrr1_o4WYA)  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=07BHy2Acq-Q>
- Tweet messages urging residents to stay away from rivers and channels during storms.
- Public Works' Stormwater Maintenance Division (SWMD), upon receiving notification of homeless encampments within its flood control facilities, contacts the Los Angeles Housing Service Authority (LAHSA) to do outreach. The LAHSA engages the encampments and makes them aware of pending storms and the risk of remaining in the flood control channels. Following the LAHSA's outreach, SWMD posts a notice informing the homeless that they are trespassing and giving them a 2-week timeframe to move to safety. If necessary, the County Sheriff may assist in the removal of the homeless.
- The 2017 homeless count of encampments near rivers for Los Angeles are as follows below. There are no counts for rivers for prior years.

<b>Riverbed</b>	<b>Total Encampments</b>
Arroyo Seco	14
Tujunga Creek	46
Los Angeles River	128
Rio Hondo	53
San Gabriel River	128

#### a. Project: YouTube videos – Public Service announcements for swift water warning

Assignment: Department of Public Works

Schedule: Year-round on YouTube

Stakeholder<sup>1</sup>?: No

Implemented: Yes

Enhancement to project:

- Currently in the process of updating several PSA videos
- Consider posting the Spanish PSA video on YouTube. It was tweeted on February 17, 2017.
- Consider making the “No Way Out” video available on the Department of Public Work’s YouTube account

**b. Project: Twitter reminders**

Assignment: Department of Public Works

Schedule: Tweet prior to and during rainy season

Stakeholder<sup>1</sup>?: No

Implemented: Yes

Enhancement to project:

- Consider the use of other social media platforms like Facebook to reach more residents.
- Consider the use of PulsePoint or private social networks like Nextdoor to assist in providing alerts to the residents.

**c. Project: Homeless Count**

Assignment: Los Angeles Homeless Service Authority

Schedule: Annually

Stakeholder<sup>1</sup>?: Yes

Implemented: Yes

Enhancement to project:

Continue implementation of the program

**2. MESSAGE: TURN AROUND DON’T DROWN**

Target Audiences:

- Drivers

Desired Outcomes:

- Decrease in swift water rescues
- Decrease in car-related flood injuries and fatalities

Progress Toward Outcomes:

- Public Works actively tweets/retweets messages urging residents to avoid driving or walking through flood waters during storms

**a. Project: Twitter reminders**

Assignment: Department of Public Works

Schedule: Tweet prior to and during rainy season  
 Stakeholder<sup>1</sup>?: No  
 Implemented: Yes  
 Enhancement to project:  
 - Consider other media to advertise message  
 - Consider providing tweets in Spanish

#### **TOPIC 4: PROTECT YOUR PROPERTY FROM THE FLOOD HAZARD**

##### **1. MESSAGE: NEED ADVICE FOR PROTECTING YOUR PROPERTY FROM FLOOD HAZARDS? PLEASE CALL US OR VISIT OUR WEBSITE**

###### Target Audiences:

- Residents, property owners, and businesses in the regulated floodplains and in repetitive loss areas
- Environmental consultants/building contractors or others involved in the permitting process
- Gaps in the maps identified properties
- Lake Los Angeles property owners with creeks through property
- Property owners near recently burned areas

###### Desired Outcomes:

- Increase in requests for advice/assistance

###### Progress Toward Outcomes:

- Storm Season Preparation YouTube video:  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GELAxD7hzIU> .
- The Department of Public Works has provided Post-Burn Mudflow Protective Advice to residents in post burn areas on how to protect their property:

2015	27
2016	151
2017*	33
*As of July 24, 2017	

- The Department of Public Works maintains at least 750,000 sandbags at their warehouse for emergencies, and during storm season provides Los Angeles County Fire Stations with an adequate supply for the public.
- During RLP site visits, observed mitigation measures were documented. To date, 14 properties have implemented flood mitigation measures.

##### **a. Project: YouTube video storm season preparation**

Assignment: Department of Public Works  
 Schedule: Available year-round online  
 Stakeholder<sup>1</sup>?: No  
 Implemented: Yes  
 Enhancement to project:

##### **b. Project: Twitter reminder**

Assignment: Department of Public Works

Schedule: Prior to and during rainy season

Stakeholder<sup>1</sup>?: No

Implemented: Yes

Enhancement to project:

- Continue implementation of program

**c. Project: Distribute mailer to affected properties**

Assignment: Department of Public Works

Schedule: Prior to and during rainy season and as needed

Stakeholder<sup>1</sup>?: No

Implemented: Yes

Enhancement to project:

- Continue implementation of the program. Currently, properties within RLA receive a letter along with a CD that contains extensive resources with information on ways to mitigate. In addition, properties within a floodplain receive flood preparedness brochure.

**d. Project: Post-Burn Mudflow Protective Advice**

Assignment: Department of Public Works

Schedule: Following brush fires and as needed

Stakeholder<sup>1</sup>?: No

Implemented: Yes

Enhancement to project:

## **TOPIC 5: BUILD RESPONSIBLY**

### **1. MESSAGE: A LITTLE INVESTMENT NOW COULD SAVE YOU MONEY LATER**

Target Audiences:

- Environmental consultants/building contractors or others involved in the permitting process.

Desired Outcomes:

- Increase protection of structures

Progress Toward Outcomes:

- Current Building and Safety plan checking procedures enforce flood protection requirements. Specific counts on increased protection of structures is not available.

**a. Project: Promote on social media (Twitter) and NFIP website**

Assignment: Department of Public Works

Schedule: Year-round; revisions to website by October

Stakeholder<sup>1</sup>?: No

Implemented: Yes

Enhancement to project:

- Provide booklets and FEMA flyers at Building and Safety's Permit Counters about proper construction

## **TOPIC 6: PROTECT NATURAL FLOODPLAIN FUNCTIONS**

### **1. MESSAGE: NO DUMPING**

#### Target Audiences:

- Areas where there are significant instance of illegal dumping on conveyance systems

#### Desired Outcomes:

- A reduction of illegal dumping instances

#### Progress Toward Outcomes:

- Number of illicit discharges the Los Angeles Flood Control District responded to:  
Fiscal Year 2014 - 2015: 61  
Fiscal Year 2015 - 2016: 57
- Number illegal dumping reported to the Department of Public Works countywide through website or by phone:  
Fiscal Year 2015 - 2016: 2,313  
Fiscal Year 2016 - 2017: 3,353
- To control and reduce pollutants entering the storm drain system, the County has launched the Stormwater Public Education Program to educate the public about what they can do to prevent pollution and keep local waterways clean. Current program outreach activities include paid advertising, community pilot programs, media relations, and corporate partnerships. In addition, the program provides technical assistance to cities to help promote cohesive pollution prevention efforts throughout the region.

#### **a. Project: Drains to Ocean signage/No Dumping signage**

Assignment: Department of Public Works

Schedule: As needed

Stakeholder<sup>1</sup>?: No

Implemented: Yes

Enhancement to project:

- Consider including Spanish versions as needed

## **TOPIC 7: GENERAL PREPAREDNESS**

### **1. MESSAGE: SIGN UP FOR ALERT LA**

#### Target Audiences:

- Countywide
- Residents, property owners, and businesses in the regulated floodplains.
- School Districts

Desired Outcomes:

- Increase the number of residents who register their mobile device numbers for ALERT LA

Progress Toward Outcomes:

- Awaiting for the number of ALERT LA registered users from the CEO Office of Emergency Management
- The County of Los Angeles' website for storm preparation promotes citizens to sign up for ALERT LA and provides resources for preparation, such as weather forecast, videos, guides, notifications, and tweets.  
<http://www.lacounty.gov/larain>
- The County of Los Angeles participates in fairs and promotes ALERT LA

**a. Project: Promote ALERT LA on County Website**

Assignment: Department of Public Works, Sheriff's Department, CEO Office of Emergency Management

Schedule: Available online year round

Stakeholder<sup>1</sup>?: No

Implemented: Yes

Enhancement to project:

- Include language in the Homeowner's Guide to encourage residents to sign up for emergency alerts at "Alert.lacounty.gov"
- Include "Alert.lacounty.gov" information in the CRS annual mailing documents

**b. Project: Provide ALERT LA County Brochure**

Assignment: CEO Office of Emergency Management

Schedule: Available online year round

Stakeholder<sup>1</sup>?: No

Implemented: Yes

Enhancement to project:

- Continue implementation of the program

**2. MESSAGE: DEVELOP A FAMILY DISASTER PLAN**

[HTTP://WWW.lacoa.org/pm\\_pub.html](HTTP://WWW.lacoa.org/pm_pub.html) and

<http://www.lacoa.org/PDF/EmergencySurvivalGuide-LowRes.pdf>

Target Audiences:

- Countywide
- Residents, property owners, and businesses in the regulated floodplains
- School Districts

Desired Outcomes:

- Increase preparedness by residents

Progress Toward Outcomes:

- In addition to the CEO's website, the County's website for emergency preparation provides citizens with resources, tips, and facts to equip and alert residents on how to best respond to emergencies and recover from disasters.  
<http://www.lacounty.gov/emergency>
- The County of Los Angeles participates in fairs to promote citizens to prepare for disasters

**a. Project: Promote on social media (Twitter) and website**

Assignment: Department of Public Works

Schedule: Quarterly

Stakeholder<sup>1</sup>?: No

Implemented: Yes

Enhancement to project:

- Continue implementation of the program

**3. MESSAGE: KNOW YOUR RISK**

Target Audiences:

- Countywide
- Residents, property owners, and businesses in the regulated floodplains
- School Districts

Desired Outcomes:

- Increase visits to the Flood Zone Determination Website

Progress Toward Outcomes:

- Los Angeles County Flood Zone Determination webpage hits:  
October 1, 2015 to September 30, 2016: 6,680  
October 1, 2016 to present: 8,160

**a. Project: Mailer to all properties with structures in the floodplain**

Assignment: Department of Public Works

Schedule: Annual Mailing (October)

Stakeholder<sup>1</sup>?: No

Implemented: Yes

Enhancement to project:

- Continue implementation of the program

**b. Project: Promote on social media (Twitter)**

Assignment: Department of Public Works

Schedule: Annually

Stakeholder<sup>1</sup>?: No

Implemented: Yes

Enhancement to project:

- Continue implementation of the program

Footnote:

<sup>1</sup> Stakeholders are the individuals, agencies, and jurisdictions that have a vested interest in the recommendations of this plan, including:

- Community representatives
- Los Angeles County divisions responsible for activities relevant to floodplain management
- Environmental advocacy groups
- Local disaster preparedness and response agencies
- Residents, owners, and operators of businesses within the floodplain

- Repetitive loss area representatives.

***Recommendations for Changes or Enhancements:*** Based on the review of this report by the Program for Public Information Committee, the following changes will be incorporated during the next performance period:

- Assess the feasibility of creating a more mobile friendly version of the Flood Zone Determination website.
- Consider providing outreach material via a file sharing system like Dropbox to replace mailing out CDs.
- Consider the use of other social media platforms like Facebook to reach more residents.
- Consider the use of PulsePoint or private social networks like Nextdoor to assist in providing alerts to the residents.

## **PUBLIC REVIEW NOTICE**

*The contents of this report are considered to be public knowledge and have been prepared for total public disclosure. Copies of the report have been provided to the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors and to local media outlets and the report is posted on the Floodplain Management Plan website. Any questions or comments regarding the contents of this report should be directed to:*

*County of Los Angeles County  
Department of Public Works  
Stormwater Engineering Division  
(626) 458-6131*

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